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zation of the Chicago Plan. Lectures have been given by its secretary on Municipal Art, a retrospective exhibition of the Art of Chicago has been held, a permanent gallery for Chicago artists established, as well as funds secured for a frieze for the decoration of the waiting room of the Juvenile Court. Under its exhibition committee, consisting of delegates from 55 clubs of Chicago, a Municipal Art Gallery has been established, paintings have been bought, prizes given, and tours through the Art Institute and to private collections and artists' studios conducted under the leadership of well-informed persons. Here is certainly stimulating example.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DENVER Denver will this year have a "safe and sane" celebration of the Fourth of July. The sale of fireworks and explosives will be limited and a committee of citizens is planning an elaborate parade, and an interesting celebration of patriotic character at the auditorium, which, with the parks, will be thrown open by the city to the public. The Civic Center for which Denver has battled so valiantly and persistently is now practically assured and the work of securing the ground will soon be under way. The plan for this Civic Center include a plaza—provided with seats for several thousand people, affording a central gathering place for all manner of outdoor patriotic meetings, band concerts and the like, and a sunken garden embellished with sculpture, fountains, flowers, and foliage. To further beautify the city several thousand maple and elm trees were given out by the municipality the early part of April to persons who would plant them about their premises. In addition to all this Denver has lately taken up the subject of police regulation of picture exhibitions, all moving picture theaters being not only placed under censorship, but compelled to install side lamps that will light the houses while the pictures are being shown. Lastly, a notable exhibition has been held at the newly opened Art Gallery in the Public Library under the auspices of the

Artists' Club. Over eight thousand persons attended this exhibition and a painting entitled "Upland Farms," by Mrs. Charlotte B. Coman, was purchased for a permanent public collection.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS The report of the Metropolitan Improvements Commission of Boston, appointed by act of legislature in 1907, has just been printed and makes a volume of more than three hundred pages. The scope of the investigation entrusted to the Commission was very broad, embracing any public works which in its opinion would tend to the convenience of the people, the development of local business, the beautifying of the Metropolitan District, or the improvement of the same as a place of residence, but the work has been conducted along tangible lines and the recommendations made are concrete and practical. The first effort was to secure information from other cities and to seek suggestion and co-operation from the citizens of Boston. Not only were the services of experts employed but members of the Commission individually devoted much time to special investigation. Mr. Robert S. Peabody, for example, spent, in the summer of 1907, several months in Europe studying municipal and port improvement in some of the chief cities and in the summer of 1908 Mr. Desmond FitzGerald devoted considerable time to the investigation of port conditions in the foremost cities on the Atlantic coast. The paramount question considered was transportation, and the several chapters of the report deal respectively with railroads and terminals, docks, highways, waterways, water frontage, and a civic center. The report on railroads and terminals is by Mr. George R. Wadsworth, engineer, to whom the study of the present steam railroad systems and their terminals within the district was entrusted; the report on docks is by Mr. Desmond FitzGerald, and on the Metropolitan Plan, the highways of the district as a whole, by Mr. Arthur A. Shurtleff, landscape architect; Mr. Richard A. Hale contributes the chapter on the feasibility of constructing inland